



Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

78-8214/1

OLC 78-0209/B

23 MAR 1978

Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman
Select Committee on Assassinations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I know that you are familiar with our practice of executing secrecy agreements with individuals (1) to whom we provide access to classified information and information of an intelligence sources and methods nature which I am charged by law to protect from unauthorized disclosure, or (2) otherwise perform services for or are engaged by the Agency. Such agreements are in force even after the relationship with this Agency has been terminated. As you are aware, the inhibitions created by these Agency secrecy agreements exist solely for the purpose of assuring that classified information is imparted only to authorized recipients.

As Admiral Turner has assured you previously, it is his desire to cooperate fully with your Committee. It is in this spirit that I am interested in assuring that such secrecy agreements do not impair access by your Committee to information within the scope of your charter. Therefore, I have determined that disclosure of otherwise protected information to the Select Committee or its designated staff members will constitute authorized provision of information within the meaning of such secrecy agreements. This letter may be used to indicate authorization to any individual who has executed a secrecy agreement with this Agency, or who may otherwise consider themselves bound by an obligation of secrecy to this Agency, to furnish to the Select Committee information within the scope and jurisdiction defined by H. Res. 222.

I appreciate the extra precautions taken by the Committee to assure against the inadvertent risk of disclosure of those few exceptionally sensitive matters involving the safety and well-being of individuals, and the protection of covert sources and operational methods not falling within the scope of

H. Res. 222. I understand that Committee staff members will be instructed to be circumspect in the conduct of their interviews and during hearings to avoid the risk of inadvertent disclosures and to provide the affected person with the opportunity to receive guidance from me or my designees on the applicability of this authorization to particular questions which are asked.

I believe these arrangements meet our mutual interests in assuring that all persons respond fully and truthfully in providing testimony to your Committee. Please indicate by your counter-signature on this letter if it is acceptable to you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Frank C. Carlucci

Frank C. Carlucci
Acting Director

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Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman
Select Committee on Assassinations

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